

Doctrinal statement of Trustees of the PCC

Members of the PCC will be asked to sign the following statement on an annual basis confirming their central Christian beliefs.

I am a committed Christian.

My beliefs are evangelical and biblical, and include the following key points:

1. The one true God who lives eternally in three persons – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
2. The love, grace and sovereignty of God in creating, sustaining, ruling, redeeming and judging the world.
3. The divine inspiration and supreme authority of the Old and New Testament Scriptures, which are the written Word of God – fully trustworthy for faith and conduct.
4. The dignity of all people, made male and female in God's image to love, be holy and care for creation, yet corrupted by sin, which incurs divine wrath and judgement.
5. The incarnation of God's eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ – born of the virgin Mary; truly divine and truly human, yet without sin.
6. The atoning sacrifice of Christ on the cross: dying in our place, paying the price of sin and defeating evil, so reconciling us with God.
7. The bodily resurrection of Christ, the first fruits of our resurrection; his ascension to the Father and his reign and mediation as the only Saviour of the world.
8. The justification of sinners solely by the grace of God through faith in Christ.
9. The ministry of God the Holy Spirit, who leads us to repentance, unites us with Christ through new birth, empowers our discipleship and enables our witness.
10. The church, the body of Christ both local and universal, the priesthood of all believers – given life by the Spirit and endowed with the Spirit's gifts to worship God and proclaim the gospel, promoting justice and love.
11. The personal and visible return of Jesus Christ to fulfil the purposes of God, who will raise all people to judgment, bring eternal life to the redeemed and eternal condemnation to the lost, and establish a new heaven and new earth.

Please follow this link to view or download the Church of England booklet:
Trusteeship – An Introduction for PCC Members.

<http://www.parishresources.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Trustee-booklet-v2.pdf>

Parish of the Sherbornes with Pamber



Membership of the PCC

PCC membership in the Sherbornes with Pamber

The PCC is the representative and decision making body of the local church. It is the one group that is elected by the members of the church. It meets on a regular basis to consider any matter of importance in the church's life and work. A united and effective PCC is vital for the progress and mission of the local church.

What does PCC membership involve?

1. Attending 6 meetings a year plus the Annual Meeting. These meetings are held on Monday evenings.
2. Giving mature and prayerful consideration to matters under discussion.
3. Representing the views of the congregation to the church leadership.
4. Explaining decisions taken in the PCC to the congregation, and giving the implementation of those decisions full support.
5. Elect 2 of its members to serve on the Standing Committee which addresses any matters arising between PCC meetings.
6. Participation in one PCC sub-group which cover areas such as Outreach, Finance, Children's work, Pastoral Care and Buildings. They are able to consider these areas in greater depth than can be done at a PCC meeting. These groups meet 3 times a year and report back to the PCC.
7. The PCC is responsible for the church's budget and for the way in which the money is spent. The vicar (rector) is responsible for the decisions regarding the church's ministry.

PCC membership

- is an important aspect of Christian service
- is for church members of all ages
- is open to any member of the church electoral roll
- implies wholehearted commitment to the mission and the meetings of the church – both on Sundays and during the week
- is by nomination and election at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
- may also be by co-option by the PCC when the need arises.
- is for 3 years with a gap of one year before standing again. (This is our own local 'rule' and exceptions may be made to it).

An Introduction for PCC Members (Extract from Church of England PCC Trustee Booklet)

God gives to all of us the responsibilities of stewardship for that which he has entrusted to us. This is true individually, but it is also true collectively. As a local church community, and as a PCC, we are stewards both of the mission of the church in that place, and of the resources available to the church.

PCC Members have ultimate responsibility for directing the affairs of their PCC, ensuring that it is solvent and well-run, and delivering its charitable outcomes. You need to keep in mind the following areas of responsibility.

- **Ensuring compliance – PCC Members must ensure that their charity complies with charity and church (ecclesiastical) law. In particular....**
 1. All PCCs are required to prepare annual accounts, and report on their work. Those who become registered charities will need to return copies of these, and annual returns to the Charity Commission. All PCCs are required to send a copy of their annual financial statements to their diocese.
 2. All registered PCCs will need to state that they are a registered charity on their letterheads and on many of their financial documents. It is not a requirement to state the charity's registration number, but many do.
- **Duty of prudence – Trustees must:**
 1. Ensure that the PCC is and will remain solvent. This means that you need to keep yourself informed of the PCC's activities and financial position.
 2. Use charitable funds and assets wisely, and only to further the purposes and interests of the PCC.
 3. Avoid undertaking activities that might place the PCC's property, funds, assets or reputation at undue risk. Careful discernment is required when stepping out 'in faith'.
- **Duty of care – Trustees must:**
 1. Exercise reasonable care and skill as trustees, using personal knowledge and experience to ensure that the PCC is well-run and efficient.
 2. Take special care when investing funds, or borrowing funds for the PCC to use, seeking professional advice where appropriate.
 3. Consider getting external professional advice on all matters where there may be material risk to the charity, or where the trustees may be in breach of their duties.
 4. To fulfil these responsibilities properly, PCC members should make sure that they keep up to date with what the PCC is doing. You should give enough time and energy to the PCC's business, and meet regularly enough to make the decisions needed. How this is done will vary between different types and sizes of PCC.